



**US Army Corps  
Of Engineers**  
Charleston District

# News Release

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Contact: Alicia Gregory, Public Affairs Officer  
(843) 329-8123/ cell (843) 670-5463  
[alicia.m.gregory@usace.army.mil](mailto:alicia.m.gregory@usace.army.mil)

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## **Folly Beach Shore Protection Project to Start in May**

**March 31, 2005**

CHARLESTON, S.C. --- This spring the Charleston District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Folly Beach, and the Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission begin a needed shore protection project at Folly Beach.

The Corps awarded the \$12 million project this month to Weeks Marine of Covington, La.

“We are pleased that we were able to design and award this needed construction project in five months from the time Congress appropriated the supplemental funding for emergency beach renourishments.” said Bill Stein, Charleston District’s Deputy District Engineer for Project Management.

The purpose of this project is to place approximately 2.3 million cubic-yards of sand onto Folly Beach from the Charleston County Park on the west side of Folly Island to a location west of the old U.S. Coast Guard facility. The Corps funded a portion of this project through the Public Law 84-99 Flood Control and Coastal Emergency Program. Folly Beach and Hunting Island are the two projects in the State of South Carolina that received funding under the program this year.

“This is an important shoreline protection project to not only the local area, but to the State of South Carolina,” said Lt. Col. Alvin Lee, Commander of the Charleston District. “This project is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission, and the Town of Folly Beach, and our federal congressional members. It shows the value of all of us working together for the good of the community.”

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The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, and Folly Beach Turtle Watch Program personnel as serving as partners in the construction program to monitor and ensure the protection of threatened/endangered species.

Weeks Marine will be mobilizing in mid-to-late April. Sand will be pumped by an ocean-certified dredge from a borrow-site approximately three miles off shore through a submerged pipeline. The pipe will emerge from the ocean to the beach where the sand will be delivered and shaped. The contractor should start pumping the sand in early May.

Weeks Marine will place controls and warnings to designate the work area on the beaches. Sand will be discharged as slurry (mixture of sand and water.) During construction, fill sections will be graded by land-based equipment, such as bulldozers, necessary to achieve the desired beach profile. These marked areas will be closed to the public, while work is done in the particular vicinity. In the interest of safety, the public must remain outside the marked areas at all times.

Boaters should exercise precaution and stay clear of all pipelines, buoys and the dredge. If boaters are unsure of how to safely navigate around the dredging operation, they can contact the dredge, R.S. Weeks, on VHF Marine Band Radio Channel 16. The pipeline will be marked in accordance with all U.S. Coast Guard Regulations. Notices to Mariners will be periodically provided by Weeks Maine, Inc. to the U.S. Coast Guard for issuance. For more information about navigating through this area, listen to the U.S. Coast Guard's Broadcast Notice to Mariners and look for the USCG's local Notice to Mariners.

The Corps anticipates the dredging to be completed this September, unless delayed by unusually severe weather conditions.